

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /066 W  
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R 121400Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6625

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR AU RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN FONMIN MACOVESCU'S VISIT TO AUSTRIA

REF: VIENNA 0786

1. AUSTRIAN EMBOFF FEBRUARY 11 CONFIRMED REFTEL (VIENNA 786)  
IMPRESSION OF JANUARY 25-28 MACOVESCU VISIT TO VIENNA AS PRETTY  
MUCH ROUTINE, BUT WAS ABLE TO ADD SOME ADDITIONAL FLAVOR.
2. AUSTRIANS WERE DISAPPOINTED AT UNWILLINGNESS OF ROMANIANS TO  
SETTLE OR EVEN SERIOUSLY DISCUSS OUTSTANDING HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS.  
MACOVESCU WAS APPARENTLY AS UNFORTHCOMING IN PRIVATE AS IN PUBLIC, I.E.

HIS PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS ABOUT A FEW MARRIAGES AND EXIT PERMITS  
NOT BEING A SUBSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN SECURITY. HE REPORTEDLY  
ASKED THE AUSTRIANS TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A FEW MORE ROMANIAN TOURISTS  
IN VIENNA OR GOR PURCHASES OF TECHNOLOGY AND MACHINERY, TAKING THE  
LINE THAT, AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, ROMANIA COULD NOT AFFORD TO DO  
BOTH AT ONCE. AUSTRIAN EMBASSY HERE HAS JUST RECEIVED A STATUS  
REPORT FROM ROMANIANS ON LIST OF "PRIORITY" EMIGRANT CASES  
SUBMITTED DURING KREISKY VISIT LAST YEAR: TEN FAMILIES RECEIVED  
EXIT APPROVAL, FOUR FAMILIES RECEIVED APPROVAL FOR SOME, BUT  
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NOT ALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS TO LEAVE, WHILE 53 HAVE BEEN DISAPPROVED.

3. AUSTRIANS ARE ALSO A LITTLE PIQUED OVER A DISTORTION IN THE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE, AS PUBLISHED IN ROMANIA. ORIGINAL SPOKE OF THE INTENTION "TO INTENSIFY" CONTACTS IN ALL DOMAINS... INCLUDING CONTACTS BETWEEN THE CITIZENS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. ROMANIAN VERSION, IN BOTH THE ROMANIAN AND GERMAN LANGUAGES, CHANGES VERB "INTENSIFY" TO "DIVERSIFY". WHILE EMBASSY IS NOT SURE OF EXACT GOR INTENTION, SINCE COMMUNIQUE WAS NEGOTIATED AND AGREED UPON IN GERMAN IN VIENNA, THEY BELIEVE CHANGE WAS DELIBERATE.

4. ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS, MACOVESCU COMPLAINED OF WESTERN REPORTING OF SOVIET-ROMANIAN DIFFERENCES, WHICH HE CALLED EXAGGERATED,

NOTING THAT COUNTRIES DID, AFTER ALL, SHARE COMMON IDEOLOGICAL BELIEFS. HE ADMITTED THAT THE GOR WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMETHING OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, AS WELL AS ECONOMIC MERIT, EMERGE FROM BALKAN CONFERENCE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS NOT VIEWED AS CREATION OF ANOTHER "BLOC", BUT RATHER A "BRIDGE" BETWEEN NEIGHBORS. HE ASSERTED THAT OF ALL BALKAN STATES, ONLY ROMANIA WAS ON GOOD TERMS WITH EACH OF HER NEIGHBORS. DISARMAMENT AND MIDDLE EAST WERE MAJOR TOPICS OF DISCUSSIONS, BUT NOTHING NEW EMERGED.

5. ROMANIA, WHICH CURRENTLY RECEIVES 50 PERCENT TARIFF REDUCTION AS DEVELOPING COUNTRY FROM AUSTRIA, PRESSED FOR EVEN FURTHER CONCESSIONS IN THIS AREA. THEY WERE ALSO SEEKING CREDITS FOR WORK ON BLACK SEA-DANUBE CANAL TO BE REPAID VIA SERVICES GRANTED TO AUSTRIAN SHIPPING, I.E. FREE BERTHING, GRATIS PORT SERVICES, ETC. NEEDLESS TO SAY AUSTRIANS WERE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC OVER THIS RATHER INNOVATIVE REPAYMENT SCHEME.

6. MACOVESCU TOLD AUSTRIANS THAT CEAUSESCU WOULD ATTEND CPSCU CONGRESS THIS MONTH. WE HAVE NO SEPARATE CONFIRMATION, ALTHOUGH BY UNCHARACTERISTICALLY UPHOLDING THE "DICTATORSHIP OF PROLETARIAT" RECENTLY AND OTHER SIGNS, CEAUSESCU MAY WELL BE SETTING UP A MORE CONCILIATORY TONE IN SUPERFICIAL RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS FOR PRE-CONGRESS PERIOD.

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